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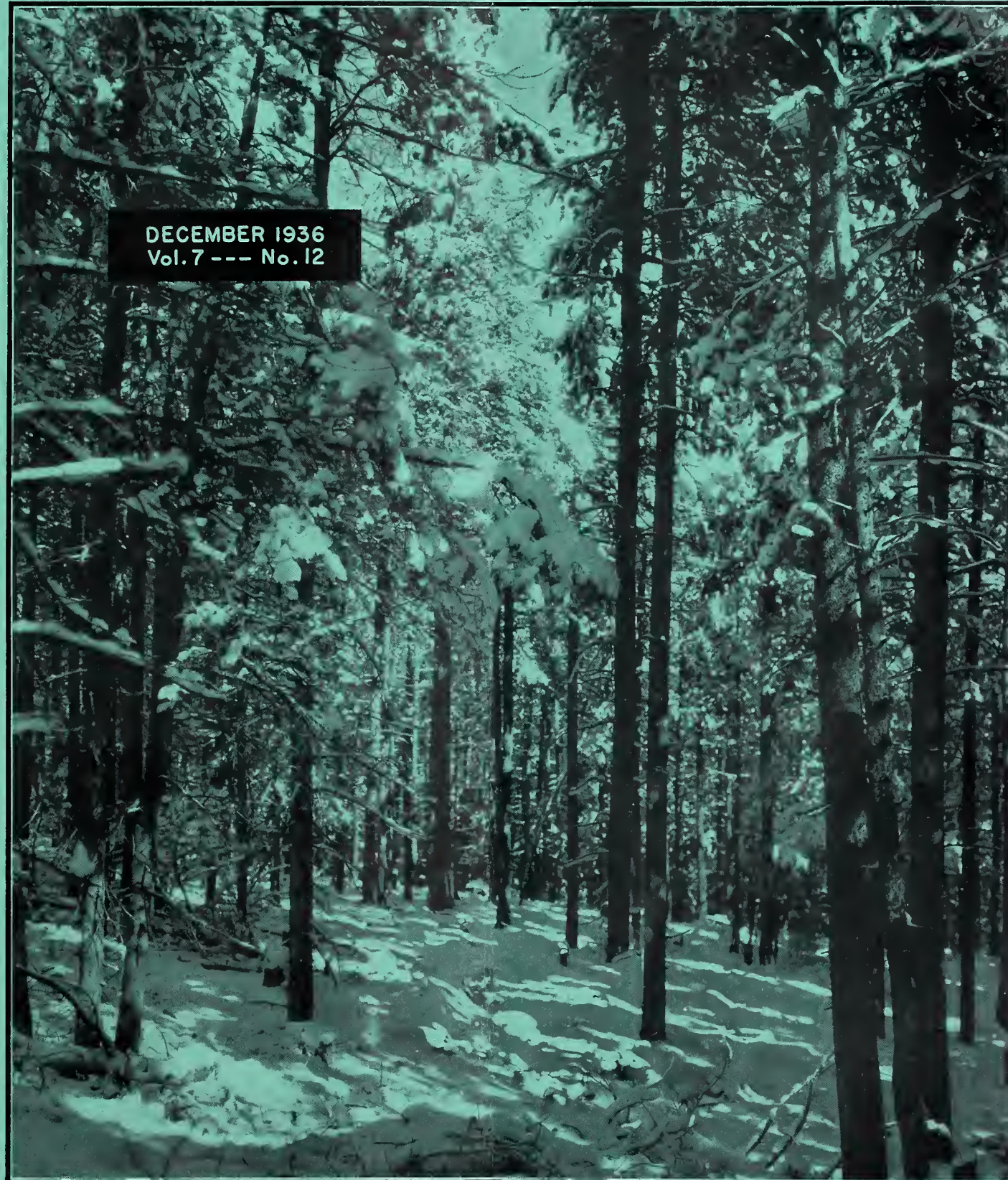
EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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U. S. Department of Agriculture

DECEMBER 1936
Vol. 7 --- No. 12



TODAY . .

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EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW - - - - Published by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture as administrative information required for the proper transaction of the public business. The Review is issued free by law to workers engaged in extension activities. Others obtain copies from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 5 cents each, or by subscription at 50 cents a year, domestic, and 90 cents, foreign. Postage stamps not acceptable in payment.

EXTENSION SERVICE

C. W. WARBURTON, *Director*

C. B. SMITH, *Assistant Director*

TOMORROW . . .

IMPORTANT it is in a house organ to know if it is fulfilling its mission. As 1936 is now receding into history and 1937 looms large before us, we wonder how many opportunities we have missed to be of service to you. Our aim is to make the Review of greatest usefulness. You can help by telling us what you would like to see published in 1937.

Now, just a word to let you know about a few of the stories that will appear in the January number.

. . .

LOOKING AHEAD. Extension Director H. J. Baker, of New Jersey, has given thoughtful consideration to the future development of extension work.

. . .

HIGH LIGHTS. Eight directors look at 1936 and find much that is significant.

. . .

CONSERVATION. A great revival in the use of limestone on Illinois farms is one of the results of the agricultural conservation program, better prices, and better methods.

. . .

CIRCULAR LETTERS. The value of cartoons in circular letters and how to measure the quality of letters are discussed in two articles, one from Indiana and the other from Montana.

. . .

CRICKETS. Some lessons learned by a county agent during 5 years of fighting Mormon crickets in Idaho.

. . .

On the Calendar

National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo., January 16-23.

Association of Southern Agricultural Workers, Nashville, Tenn., February 3-5.

Arizona Livestock Show, Tucson, Ariz., February 18-22.

National Education Association, Department of Superintendents, New Orleans, La., February 20-25.
American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, La., February 20-25.

Eastern States Regional Conference, New York City, February 25-27.

Southwest Texas Boys' Fat Stock Show, San Antonio, Tex., February 25-27.

San Angelo Fat Stock Show, San Angelo, Tex., March 6-9.

Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Tex., March 12-21.

ADMINISTRATOR or EDUCATOR

B. H. CROCHERON

Director of Extension, California

Education Vital for Progress

NO ONE challenges the soundness of the proposition that "education advances human progress." The statement is so trite that it creates no comment. We take the values of education for granted and are likely to pass them unnoted because so well known. Concerning all other means and methods for human progress there is division of opinion and debate. A considerable portion of the human race believes and contends that welfare is advanced by the direction and dictation of certain superior individuals who, risen above their fellows, grasp the reins of power for the benefit of mankind. Another large group deny this and contend that progress is advanced by means of individual initiative unhampered by direction; that the mass must overcome the inertia of privilege, as it is only by economic urges that society struggles upward. However, these and all other groups admit that education is essential for progress. Whatever the political philosophy, a common meeting ground is in a demand for the "liberal and practical education of the industrial classes."

Colleges Created for Teaching

By chance or design the Morrill Act of 1862 builded upon this topic of common accord. It created a fund for "the endowment, support, and maintenance of at least one college in each State, where the leading object shall be . . . to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts . . . in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes." It is clear that the purpose sought was not administration, direction, or regulation. Teaching was the job to be done. The purpose of the land-grant colleges was further reinforced and



extended by the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, establishing cooperative extension work which was to consist of the "giving of instruction and practical demonstrations . . . to persons not resident at said colleges . . . and imparting to such persons information." It was clear that the essential job of the Morrill Act colleges, namely, "to teach", was extended to this new department of these colleges.

Regulatory Duties a Hindrance

Although in the early days many of the land-grant institutions were forced to assume certain regulatory duties, it soon became apparent that these were a hindrance rather than a help. It was from education, rather than from regulation, that popular support was gained. Few people love a policeman, but most persons respect a teacher. The larger land-grant colleges have long since shuffled off their minor regulatory duties, which properly have been placed upon some administrative branch of State government. Until recently it has been generally recognized that "the discovery and diffusion of knowledge" was the entire field of a college. Because all mankind was united in support of a "liberal and practical education of the industrial classes", the land-grant colleges and their Extension Services prospered.

Rise of Administrative Functions

Lately, due to the exigencies of the Federal Government, the colleges have been asked to assume, and have assumed, certain other functions which involved administration as well as education. Indeed, up to the present time, the administrative phases of these new tasks have far outweighed their edu-

(Continued on p. 186)

With True Holiday Spirit

Extension Aids in

the Celebration



1. Home-made Christmas toys to gladden the hearts of youngsters in Routt County, Colo.
2. New England Christmas trees cooperatively marketed bring profits to the farmer.
3. A New Hampshire farmer ties up his crop of Christmas trees.
4. State fair exhibit shows how resources at hand are used in Cortland County, N. Y., for Christmas decoration.

Changes in Cropping Practices

O. V. WELLS

Program Planning Division
Agricultural Adjustment Administration

THE county agricultural adjustment planning project was organized in the fall of 1935 and was carried out by the State Extension Services in more than 2,400 counties during the winter and spring of 1935-36. This project was designed to help farmers develop an effective planning procedure so that agricultural programs might be better adapted to bring about the changes needed from the standpoint of good land use and agricultural conservation. During 1935-36 the county committees were chiefly concerned with the questions: (1) What production of the various farm products would be expected, assuming normal weather and prospective prices but with production- and marketing-control programs discontinued? (2) What production of the various farm products would be expected, assuming normal weather, prospective prices, and farming systems so adjusted as to maintain soil fertility and control erosion?

Answers Summarized

The answers to these questions have been summarized and are presented in the accompanying table which also compares indicated or recommended acreages with those reported for 1929 or 1928-32.

In answer to the first question, the county committees indicated that increases in the acreages of soil-depleting crops and of total cropland back to or above the level which prevailed in the period 1928-32 would be expected without an agricultural control program, assuming that usual farming practices were continued.

Shifts in Cropland Needed

From the standpoint of soil conservation, however, the county committees thought that some very important shifts in the uses of cropland were needed, although only a slight change in the total acreage of cropland itself was indicated.

In general, a significant downward adjustment in the acreage of soil-depleting crops was recommended. For corn, the county committees recommended a decrease of almost 8.5 percent from the level which prevailed in 1928-32. For cotton, a downward adjustment of 21 percent was indicated, whereas a reduction of 17 percent was recommended for tobacco and of about 3.5 percent for wheat.

The recommended adjustment in corn acreage is centered in the Corn Belt, where the county committees recommended a 14-percent decrease as compared with 1928-32, whereas the acreage in the Cotton Belt was not materially changed, as it was felt that the needed reduction in soil-depleting crops could better be taken from cotton. Although the net reduction in the acreage of wheat is small, the recommendations call for a 7-percent reduction in the hard winter and hard spring wheat regions as compared with 1928-32, and a 23-percent reduction in the Pacific Northwest. As an offset, however, a 21-percent increase was indicated in the soft winter wheat areas in the Midwest and the East.

On the other hand, a marked increase in the acreage of soil-conserving crops was indicated. The acreage of soil-conserving crops was increased slightly more than 15 million acres, or 30 percent, which was made up of a 74-percent increase in the acreage of alfalfa hay and of 14 percent in the acreage of other crops included in the soil-conserving group.

Changes in Livestock Numbers

The estimated changes in livestock numbers associated with the recommended changes in crop acreages are also of considerable interest. A decrease of 13.5 percent in hog numbers, an increase of about 15 percent in the number of all cattle, and an almost unchanged number of sheep and lambs are indicated as compared with the numbers on hand in the period 1928-32.

The results of the county planning project will be useful to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in determining the general direction in which the agricultural conservation program should be pointed, but their usefulness will be increased as the data are improved and as differences which exist between the county planning project and the similar set of recommendations which were submitted by the State college specialists in connection with the regional adjustment project are eliminated.

Work To Be Continued

Provision is being made for this work, and the several States all are agreed that it is desirable to continue the county agricultural adjustment planning project through the year 1936-37. The county planning project in 1936-37 is especially designed (1) to obtain estimates of the probable effect upon acreage and production of a sound land-use program which should include the retirement of "submarginal" land and shifts between enterprises which seem clearly desirable and susceptible of practical accomplishment, as well as changes recommended from the standpoint of soil conservation, and (2) to give farmers a means of developing recommendations for an improved agricultural program in 1938.

Acreage changes indicated in county agricultural adjustment planning project

Item	1929 or 1928-32	Acreages expected without program (thousands of acres)	Acreages recommended for soil conservation
Harvested crop land.....	359,241	368,762	360,054
Corn	102,768	103,419	94,155
Cotton	40,554	39,306	31,927
Tobacco	1,874	1,759	1,555
Wheat.....	59,885	64,150	57,942
Soil-depleted crops ¹	284,117	293,192	270,733
Soil-conserving crops ²	52,029	53,088	66,393

¹ Fruit and some minor crops excluded.

² Wild hay, rotation pasture, and some minor crops excluded.

Altogether, the county committees recommend a net reduction of about 10.5 million acres in the acreage of intertilled crops and of more than 13.5 million acres, or 5 percent, in the acreage of all soil-depleting crops as compared with 1929.

Extension Service Obtains W. P. A. Cooperation in Putting on

Idaho's Big Weed Program



Treating morning glory with carbon bisulphide.

IDAHO'S weeds have been on the receiving end of some decisive wallops this year in a program which has attracted national attention. The State has just completed a real State-wide weed program. Led by Harry L. Spence, Jr., energetic young extension agronomist and State seed commissioner, Idaho got W. P. A. cooperation in tackling weeds.

When the last weed crews put up their equipment for the winter, Idaho had treated nearly 5,000 acres of noxious weeds in 38 counties. Weed work has been carried on this year in all but 5 of the State's 44 counties, these 5 being primarily lumber or mineral regions with practically no agriculture. Weeds have been tackled on the valuable and highly productive small acreages in the irrigated sectors, on the open range lands, and on the watersheds at the head of irrigation systems where the seeds drop into the streams and float down to infest the farming land many miles below.

Idaho has been campaigning against weeds in an up-and-down sort of way since 1927, explains Spence, who has directed the technical phases of the big 1936 drive. The scope and enthusiasm of the weed work, however, has depended upon the farmer's pocketbook more than upon his attitude toward weeds. In years of good farm income there was much antiweed warfare. During depression years little or nothing was done. The weeds, however, paid no heed to the depression and spread with their customary speed and enthusiasm.



Morning glory growing so heavily in the wheat that it tangles up the mechanism of the binder.

The State long has recognized the threat of weeds, particularly in the irrigated regions. "Weeds are the biggest conservation problem we have under irrigation", says Spence. "Their spread under the canal system is terrific. The increase in mechanical farming, particularly the combining of grain, has been a big factor in contributing toward their rapid spread in the nonirrigated areas. We have come to the point where land values are reduced and loans are refused because of weeds."

Up to 1932 the greatest number of counties doing weed work in a single year was 27, but of this number only a few actually tackled their weeds on a county-wide basis. Although Idaho ranks well up among the States for antiweed work in the past 10 years, the program this year amounts to more than all of the efforts of the past years lumped together.

Research Paves the Way

During recent years the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station has done extensive research in chemical and clean-cultivation methods of weed control, so the stage was all set for the big 1936 program. High cost, rather than lack of scientific knowledge, has been the main check on weed work in Idaho.

The agricultural leaders have recognized the need for comprehensive work, but the high cost of chemical control has held them back. Some farmers or groups of farmers have done excellent control work while their neighbors did nothing.

Realizing that the only sound approach to the weed problem was on a big scale covering all the infested land, Spence started early in 1935 working for a State-wide program that would bring Federal cooperation. He met prompt cooperation from J. Leo Hood, State W. P. A. director, and from Idaho's congressional delegation. In January 1936 the good news came from Washington that W. P. A. had approved \$1,500,000 for a weed program in Idaho, to be apportioned 40.6 percent for materials and 59.4 percent for labor. Counties quickly matched this big sum with \$500,000, which has been used mainly for materials and transportation of workmen.

Weed Law Used

Idaho has a weed law which provided an excellent background for getting the huge program under way speedily. It allows any county to set up all or part of the county as a weed district, to name the weeds that are noxious, to designate the methods of control, and to set a

date at which they are to be controlled. Each county setting up a weed program was given an allotment of the funds available. These county allocations ranged from \$5,000 to as high as \$125,000. Each county was set up as an individual unit with a supervisor and as many foremen as were needed, the number ranging from 2 to 10. Foremen were picked for qualifications and experience and not from relief rolls. Crew labor was from the regular W. P. A. relief rolls.

Under the program, the landowner bought one-half of the material, and W. P. A. furnished all the labor. This has brought the cost for weed work down to the point where every landowner is vitally interested in curbing weed menace. "The program has far exceeded our expectations, both in support received from citizens and in beneficial results accomplished", says Spence. "By operating our crews at full capacity to December 1 we could not possibly care for more than 20 percent of all the requests received. We have been assured, however, that the program will be continued next year. The interest in weed work is greater than ever before."

Urban Citizens Interested

The program has received the hearty support of urban citizens as well as that of farmers. During the summer Spence scheduled four field tours in six counties to demonstrate what the program is doing. Attendance on these tours totaled 2,200. At one time he sent out a call to farmers for their views and suggestions on the program, and within a week he had received 1,500 letters. If he expected a flood of criticisms he was disappointed, for the only comments in this vein dealt with the shortage of crews. This was something beyond Spence's control, and labor shortage was the main trouble throughout the program. Altogether, 1,500 workmen were employed, but many more could have been used. The letters that Spence received were enthusiastic for the program.

Spence says that the program this year, while only a start insofar as final solution of Idaho's weed problem is concerned, has had three main objectives: (1) To get a complete survey by counties of all noxious weed-infested areas; (2) to treat the smaller and more critical areas with chemicals; and (3) to get a clean-cultivation program going on the larger areas.

Weed Patches Mapped

As a result of the survey Idaho really knows its weeds. Spence says that this part of the program has been particularly valuable. The weed patches have been plotted on maps with legal descriptions.

Illustrating the value of this survey, Spence cites the situation involving leafy spurge. Up to this year Idaho agronomists have been talking in terms of two patches of leafy spurge in the State. They were surprised to learn that the survey revealed this pest thriving in 16 counties, although none of these other patches were more than 25 rods square. These other patches have been cleaned out with chemicals, and clean cultivation is curbing the larger ones. Left undiscovered, these small patches of leafy spurge would have become a serious problem within comparatively few years.

When the program ends, Idaho will have purchased about 2,500,000 pounds of chlorates and 230,000 gallons of carbon bisulphide. The weed workers will have treated 2,000 acres with chlorates, 800 acres with carbon bisulphide, and have 2,000 acres under cultivation. Excellent results are being obtained with all methods of control. Particularly are the weed crews demonstrating that clean cultivation can be effective if properly handled. The difficulty with the average farmer is that he will faithfully tackle the weeds for about 4 or 5 months and then will let things slide. It is different with the weed crews paid to go after the weeds at regular intervals.

Idahoans are thinking in terms of a future program for weeds, says Spence. Spence says that public opinion in the State reflects the conviction that weed control has grown beyond the limitations of a local problem and that it is a conservation problem deserving public concern and support.

The people are aroused to the need for a consistent and active campaign which will keep this problem under control. Because of the educational value of work done this year with the cooperation of W. P. A. workers, farmers are ready and willing to go ahead consolidating their gains and making new headway against the menace of weeds. Using data gathered this year, efforts will be more effective in combating this enemy to farm profits.

How Fast Should We Drive?

The Zeta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi Extension Fraternity, in a recent communication to its members, makes suggestions regarding automobile driving of extension agents in Colorado that might well be taken to heart by all extension workers. We quote:

Even though the personnel of the Colorado extension force have been very free from accidents of all kinds, yet it is an opportune moment to reflect upon what it all means. We never seem to realize that the chances of a good soldier in battle are minor as compared to the chances every Colorado extension worker faces every time he or she takes the highway in an automobile.

You will do the Service nor the people for whom you are working no good if you meet with an accident on the way. The fact is there is no meeting, there is no single or combined project of an extension nature that is so important as to risk the life of even one person, to say nothing of the lives of others. The time does come when the life of an individual hangs in the balance and when speed is permissible. There is a time in the life of a nation when the life of an individual or the lives of several individuals are as nothing compared to the preservation of that one great and vital issue. But it is simply folly for extension people to take the unnecessary risks that are run every day, and apparently the actors in the show are proud of their part.

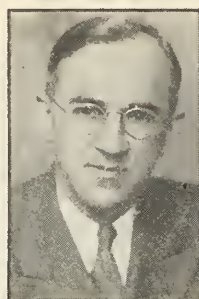
Speed in excess of 50 miles per hour on the average highway is excessive. Extension workers should bear in mind that they are at all times setting an example, to be followed or to be ridiculed by the people for whom they work. The loss of life today from the recklessly driven automobile far exceeds casualties of any war in which this country has ever engaged. The annual toll of the frozen throttle exceeds the total losses of our A. E. F. in the World War. Almost every minute someone, somewhere, is killed or injured by an automobile in the United States. You have seen the compiled figures and know for yourself. And yet we continue to take these foolish chances.

Zeta Chapter wishes to appeal to every worker in extension in Colorado to allow more time for road trips, to drive at reasonable rates of speed, and in every way possible assist in promoting courtesy and safety on the Colorado highways.

Serves the Nation's Schools



J. C. Wright.



J. W. Studebaker.



Bess Goodykoontz.

THROUGH State departments of education and other sources the Office of Education continuously gathers information regarding education from one-room rural schools to city school systems and from small colleges to large universities. Such information is carefully analyzed and is made available by the Office through its many channels of service.

Next year, 1937, the division of the Federal Government having the responsibility of promoting "the cause of education throughout the country" will reach its seventieth year since establishment by act of the 39th Congress of the United States. During that period there have been 10 different commissioners of education. The present commissioner is J. W. Studebaker, with Bess Goodykoontz, assistant commissioner; and J. C. Wright, assistant commissioner for vocational education.

Extensive Activities

It gives some idea of the extent of activities of the Office of Education today when we point out that during the past year nearly 500,000 publications based upon research of the Office were distributed; more than 5,800 persons visited the Office of Education library; 75 new publications were completed as results of research; 585 credentials from 64 different countries were evaluated in assisting foreign students; and five special projects were administered by the Office. These were the forum, radio, university research, local school units, and a survey of vocational education and guidance of Negroes.

The Office of Education also carries the responsibility of certification and supervision of funds for the 69 land-grant

colleges which for the past year had enrollments totaling 174,817 students. The Office of Education serves in the capacity of educational adviser for the C. C. C. camps which now enroll more than 355,000 young men.

Statistics of the Office of Education show that approximately 33,000,000 children and adults attend schools or educational classes; kindergartens and elementary schools enroll 23,000,000 pupils; high schools, 6,000,000; colleges and universities, 1,000,000. There are more than 1,000,000 teachers in the Nation's public and private institutions of learning.

Divisions of Service

All this may emphasize somewhat the wide range of services carried on by the Federal Office of Education which, including all divisions and special projects, has a total of about 200 staff members.

Each division of the Office is under the immediate direction of a division chief. The different divisions and services are as follows:

The Higher Education Division devotes itself to activities and research in connection with colleges, universities, and professional schools.

The American School Systems Division deals with State, county, and local school systems of elementary and secondary grade.

The Comparative Education Division studies and reports upon education in other countries and evaluates credentials of foreign students.

The Special Problems Division functions in fields of rural education, education of Negroes, education of native and minority groups, and education for exceptional children.

The Statistical, Library, and Editorial Divisions need no description, as they carry on the services described by their titles.

In 1933 the long-established functions of the Federal Board for Vocational Education were assigned to the Office of Education. The Vocational Education

Division has the following subdivisions designated as services: Agricultural education, trade and industrial education, home-economics education, commercial education, vocational rehabilitation, and research and statistics.

New Quarters Soon

For the past few years the Office of Education has been located in temporary quarters in the Hurley-Wright Building in Washington, but early in 1937 it will be located permanently in the new United States Department of the Interior building, near the old Interior building.

Conducts Surveys

Upon request from State and local education officials, the Office of Education conducts educational surveys with a view to assisting schools in bringing about improved and more progressive conditions. Many extensive surveys of this type have been carried out, a few of the more recent ones being: A comprehensive survey of the public schools of Cincinnati, Ohio; Rockland County, N. Y.; and of the southern Appalachian Mountain region.

Invitation Extended

The Office of Education extends a very cordial invitation to school officials throughout the Nation to communicate with the Office in regard to any matters upon which the Office may be of service. Its publications, including bulletins, pamphlets, leaflets, and its official monthly magazine, *School Life*, are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Double Business

Farmers' cooperatives purchasing oil, gasoline, insurance, irrigation, electricity, and other farm supplies are the fastest-growing organizations among the 20,000 or more farmers' business cooperatives.

Develop Community Activities



North Carolina women clean up the entrance to their recreation park. This park was originally cleared and equipped by home demonstration club women.

NEARLY every State has unique stories of how home demonstration clubs have influenced the civic and social life of rural communities. Not only have families been aroused to action in problems of their own homes, but many whole communities have joined together in building clubhouses and sponsoring other community enterprises.

Extension agents have reported nearly 1,200 community houses, clubhouses, permanent camps, or community rest rooms established in 1935 for adults and young people as the results of extension activities.

Of even greater significance is the wide scope of community activities emanating from these community centers, activities which have focused the spotlight on the extension objective, "to promote the mental, social, cultural, recreational, and community life of rural people."

As a result, 1935 statistical reports of extension agents throughout the United States indicate that more than 15,000 communities developed recreational activities, with 74,000 families following extension recommendations as to home recreation. More than 4,600 school or other community grounds were improved

in accordance with plans furnished by the Extension Service; nearly 3,000 rural communities have been directly assisted in providing library facilities, and 9,300 community or county-wide pageants and plays have been presented by rural people. Four thousand communities were assisted in establishing work centers for such activities as canning, seed treatment, and meat curing. Approximately 7,000 communities were assisted in improving hygienic or public welfare practices.

Community Kitchens

Community kitchens established in many parts of the country for relief canning have utilized home demonstration trained women as supervisors. These canning kitchens not only took care of the vegetables from the relief gardens but were available to any family in the community who brought in their surplus home-grown products to can. As toll for the use of the kitchen, some of the canned products were contributed to families on relief.

In Kleburg County, Tex., the home agent assisted in making plans for the arrangement of the equipment in the canning plant and for the selection of the

equipment. She helped in training the initial workers and made subsequent visits to the plant regularly to advise with the supervisor and to check the work. The agent cooperated in and directed some experimental work in the canning of fish at the plant.

Providing a center for community activities was a problem in many places. However, in Missouri during 1935, despite the depression, 710 women's home demonstration clubs reported that they made definite efforts to improve public property. Among the results are 14 new buildings for community use, 29 old buildings remodeled, 7 rest rooms furnished, 15 canning centers established, 5 campgrounds organized, 64 playgrounds equipped, 34 parks beautified, and 293 school or community grounds improved.

During 1935, nearly 1,800 adult home-demonstration clubs in Oklahoma were encouraged and assisted by home demonstration agents to undertake a definite community activity that would bring all



A cooperative meat curing plant is a successful activity in St. Francis County, Ark.

the people of a community together in a constructive way. These community activities included the improvement of school and church grounds, the purchase

of books for a community library, the testing of home and school water supplies, the building of community houses, canning for school lunches, community clean-up days, and community entertainments, plays, and pageants.

Club Achievements Vary

The achievements of the Providence Club in Smith County, Tex., are typical of the community-improvement activities of a number of the home demonstration clubs in the country. In this club the women have built and furnished a large clubhouse that serves as a recreation center for the community. They helped to install a light plant for the school and clubhouse; they bought seats for the school auditorium and organized the first Sunday school that the community ever had. The Sunday school has a regular attendance now of 75 members. The clubwomen cooperated with the sanitation program and installed 35 pit-type toilets in their rural homes.

Home demonstration clubs in some sections sponsor philanthropic projects. Clubs in Chautauqua, N. Y., gave canned-goods showers for several families who lost their homes by fire. They presented baskets of flowers and fruit to sick people, toys to crippled children, made layettes, and donated Christmas gifts to needy children.

In Obion County, Tenn., one community club made available a loan chest for the use of the sick in the home, with equipment consisting of ice caps, hot-water bottles, sheets, and pillow cases.

The town of Chesterfield, S. C., is proud of one of the prettiest parks in the State, a direct outgrowth of the first community-center project launched 5 years ago by Kerby Tyler, home demonstration agent of Chesterfield County. The park boasts of a lily pool, children's playgrounds, a garden theater, a community hut, varied picnic shelters, all in a setting of native blooming plants.

Interest in Recreation Grows

There is a growing interest in recreational projects throughout the country. Very definite progress has been made through recreation-training schools held in cooperation with the National Recreation Association.

"The Federal Extension Service never did anything of greater benefit to the rural families of this State than the cooperation that they made possible with the National Recreation Association", said Mrs. Mary Buol, home demonstration leader for Nevada.

The development of recreation areas is a project of very great importance to the people of rural areas near metropolitan centers. In California, 17 counties have been working on a program for the development of rural recreation reserves. In many of the counties there are no places for the traveling public to picnic or rest without trespassing on private property. These counties have been making progress on projects to improve picnic and camping facilities, to build community halls, and to develop surrounding parks and playgrounds. Even swimming pools have been built with C. C. C. aid.

In Georgia, the 1935 community program included a health program with a paid worker under the direction of the F. E. R. A. A separate building known as the health center was erected. In addition, to facilitate and encourage play and healthy recreation more widely among rural people, permanent camps, playgrounds, and a swimming pool have been provided.

Drama Fills Need

Drama fills a very important part in the extension programs of rural communities, both for juniors and adults. Dramatics in north St. Louis County, Minn., is one of the more popular forms of rural leisure-time activity. The county schools have organized little theaters, and one-act play contests are conducted by the E. R. A. recreation workers and farm bureau clubs.

In Wisconsin, in cooperation with the Wisconsin Dramatic Guild, the writing of original one-act plays by rural people has been encouraged. Nine such plays were submitted in the 1935 annual contest. Two of these plays, judged to be the best and considered true presentations of rural life, were presented in the spring drama guild festival.

The possibility of taking a play to the county seat, or perhaps to the State capital, furnishes an incentive for greater effort and finer productions. Through the stimulus of these tournaments, many fine plays have been written, and a second collection of them was recently issued by a Chicago publisher under the title, Wisconsin Community Plays.

It is being more generally recognized that there are many factors in the community that influence the quality of living in the home. The rural people are becoming more community minded. As farm women everywhere are organizing and maintaining home demonstration clubs, they are thinking and working in the interest of community welfare as well as that of their own families.

Constitution Signed 150 Years Ago

The celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Constitution of the United States will begin September 17, 1937 the anniversary date of the signing, and will continue until April 30, 1939, the anniversary of Washington's inauguration. A special committee has been established with Congressman Sol Bloom as director general of the activity.

The purpose of the celebration will be to create a quickening of interest in the Constitution and its essential relation to the history of the Nation. Material will be available for the study of the historical background and origin of the Constitution, its ratification, the organization of the National Government, and the constitutional phases of its later development.

Every State, city, town, and community is invited to participate. Institutions and organizations have been asked, and many have accepted the opportunity, to join in this Nation-wide celebration. No restrictions or limitations are suggested regarding group activity, all being free to arrange their own program and observance.

Information and certain supplies, such as copies of the Constitution, may be obtained from the Constitution Sesquicentennial Commission, Director General Sol Bloom, Washington, D. C.

Pointers on Soil Texture For Conservation Campers



Some of the 50 Missouri 4-H club members attending a conservation camp in the Ozarks heard Prof. H. H. Krusekopf explain soil texture. The campers were chosen because of their outstanding work in conservation during the year.

Occupying an old C. C. C. Camp, they spent the four days in a first-hand study of conservation in its various phases.

Soils and ways of conserving the soil, forestry, wildlife of the region and how it might be restored were among the subjects studied.

They Planted Lespedeza

When County Agent McConnell Organized a Legume Campaign



T. T. McConnell, County Agent,
Barry County, Mo.

ONE of the most effective extension campaigns in Missouri during 1936, in the opinion of State leaders, was the legume-seeding campaign in Barry County, as a result of which 38,927 acres were seeded to legumes last spring. Furthermore, the work was so well timed that farmers obtained their seed at less than half the prices that became current before the end of the seeding season.

The central figure in this campaign, County Agent T. T. McConnell, gives a large share of the credit for its success to school-district and township leaders and to State extension specialists in soils, crops, and agricultural economics. The campaign was built around the county organization of school-district leaders known as "clover and prosperity" delegates under a plan developed about 10 years ago by the extension specialists in soils and crops.

Conference Considers Plans

The campaign opened with the annual conference of Barry County clover and prosperity delegates at Cassville, the county seat, on December 17, 1935. The central idea of the conference was how to obtain wider adoption of the standard practices of soil improvement through erosion control, soil treatment, and the use of legumes. It was decided to place emphasis on plans that would also build

up feed supplies and reduce the cost of soil treatments in legume growing.

In suiting his plan of action to the needs of his farmers, McConnell, immediately after the December conference, circularized his entire county mailing list, urging wide use of the thin-land legumes, Korean lespedeza and soybeans, in combination with existing stands of fall-sown grains, in order to provide summer pasture, high protein forage, and low-cost protection against erosion. Specifically, the double cropping plans included lespedeza to be seeded on winter barley and winter wheat, lespedeza to be sown with oats intended for hay, and soybeans to be planted immediately after barley harvest to be cut for hay late in August, so that the same ground could again be sown to barley for early fall pasture.

their timely service in supplying pasture and hay, and their importance in soil improvement and erosion control. The importance of good seed was emphasized, and all farmers in attendance were asked to estimate the amount of each kind of seed they would buy if favorable arrangements could be made for its purchase.

Obtaining the Seed

At the close of this series of meetings McConnell had accumulated the signed requests of 315 men for a total of 63,000 pounds of lespedeza, red clover, sweet-clover, and alfalfa seed—most of the requests being for lespedeza. Armed with this information and with supplementary estimates of the probable demand, the county agent visited 16 seed dealers in the 11 towns serving the population of Barry County and urged them



Good growth of lespedeza at the height of the 1936 drought. The highway map in the background is 14 inches high.

During the first half of January, carrying out plans announced in his circular letter, McConnell conducted a series of 12 meetings so distributed as to serve the 24 townships in his county. In these meetings he explained in detail the advantages of the double cropping plans,

to provide stocks of seed of the quality recommended by the college and in quantity adequate to meet the needs of the county.

This was done about the middle of January with such effectiveness that these dealers sold more than 200,000 pounds of

seed by the third week in February. One dealer was so impressed by McConnell's statement that he bought a full carload of lespedeza seed—43,000 pounds—and had the satisfaction of selling it all within 4 weeks after its arrival at his place of business. So early was the seed stocked by the dealers and advertised to the trade throughout Barry County that these farmers got all their lespedeza seed at 6½ cents a pound though the price rose to 15 cents before the end of March.

Outlook Meetings Used

Having set his dealers to buying lespedeza seed in mid-January, McConnell launched another series of meetings for the last half of the month, again holding 12 meetings for the 24 townships. This series was held in cooperation with the agricultural economics specialists and was announced as a series of outlook and farm-planning meetings. Quite naturally, however, they developed into pasture meetings, as shortage of feed and the inducements offered by the soil-conservation program indicated a twofold reason for seeding legumes for pasture and for soil building. By this time, also, McConnell could assure his farmers that good seed would be available at low cost.

The first check made on results was a questionnaire sent to seed dealers, but this seemed incomplete to McConnell, so he arranged to get first-hand information from the farmers themselves. When the work sheets were made out on the new farm program each man was asked what soil-conserving crop he had seeded last spring and how many acres. The totals were as follows: Lespedeza on crop land, 24,524 acres; on noncrop land, 4,066 acres; total lespedeza, 28,590 acres; red clover, 3,987 acres; alfalfa, 2,071 acres; sweet-clover, 42 acres; and other qualifying crops, 4,236 acres.

Tabulating his results by townships, McConnell found that the campaign had reached every part of his county. Flat Creek farmers led with 2,263 acres, and 11 townships ranged from 1,031 to 1,618 acres each.

Legumes Survive Drought

But the supreme test of the campaign was exacted by the

terrific drought and heat of midsummer, following these seedings. August found the lespedeza stands somewhat thinned but still holding on. Later reports showed that fully three-fourths of these stands survived and made rapid growth following the September rains. With no frost in October the crop matured sufficient seed to make sure of good stands on these fields by volunteer growth in 1937.

Administrator or Educator

(Continued from p. 177)

cational opportunities. The details of administrative procedure have been so numerous and the necessary regulations with which the job is surrounded so involved that little time has remained with which to grasp the educational possibilities presented by the new program. Meanwhile, the Extension Services of the land-grant colleges may endanger their original charter by neglecting "to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes", their sole reason for existence and only claim to greatness.

Dilemma of Conflicting Duties

It is difficult to be an administrator and an educator at one and the same time. It will probably be difficult for the colleges to be teachers and administrators at the same time. Administration breeds domination. It tends toward the attitude of mind that culminates in the policeman. It is usually clothed with an invisible uniform arising from a position of power. The attitude of the educator is wholly different. He is a friend, a counselor, and a guide. He proceeds from the simple to the complex at the pleasure of the student. He is interested in progress rather than compliance. If the land-grant colleges must serve as administrative agencies, it is to be hoped that this duty will be in addition to and not in place of the teaching which has been their function in the past. If the colleges are to continue their work of education unabated, the staff of teachers at the college and in the field must have their whole time free for teaching. A new group of persons must be added whose job it is to follow the needs of Federal and State administration. The old staff cannot do both the old job and the new. One or the other must suffer.

As education was once the sole duty of a college and as by exercise of that function the colleges prospered, they may do well to safeguard that duty from the intrusion of other tasks. Such commendation as they may receive and such support as they may continue to derive will probably be the result of success achieved in "the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes."

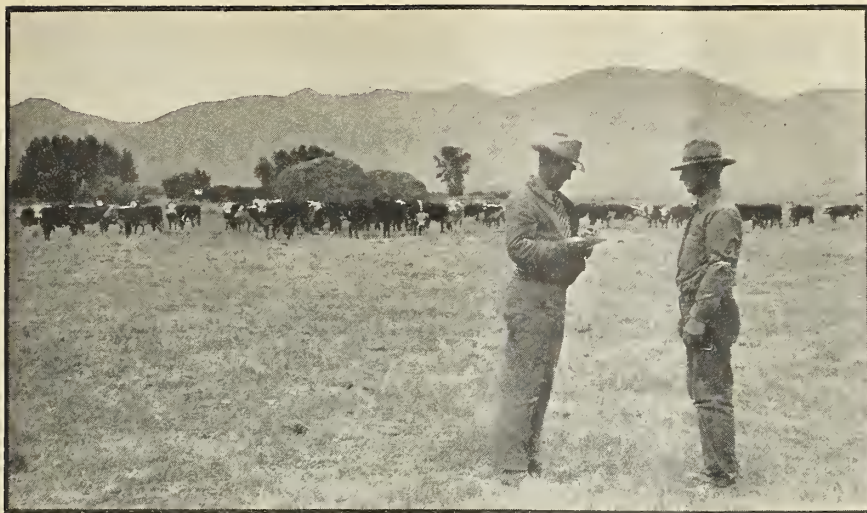
Measuring 4-H Club Work

Ways and means of measuring the educational outcomes of 4-H club work was the conference theme of the meeting of national educators and members of the Federal Extension Service staff held in Washington, D. C., on November 5 and 6. The conference grew out of recommendations adopted at the June meeting of the special land-grant college committee appointed to study the influence of extension teaching upon the boys and girls who participate in 4-H club work.

The conference analyzed the objectives as outlined in the 1935 report of the land-grant college committee from the standpoint of measurement possibilities and gave attention to testing procedures applicable to 4-H club work. The importance of adequate measurements of the educational outcomes of 4-H club work was particularly emphasized. It was pointed out that these units of measurement will be useful not only in determining the results of the current 4-H program but will be a guide in studying the efficiency of new approaches, procedures, and teaching methods of future club work.

It was realized that the practical value of any psychological measure is established only through prolonged use in practice.

Among those attending, in addition to the Washington staff, were: Wallace W. Charters, chairman, director, bureau of educational research, Ohio State University; E. L. Austin, professor of education, Michigan State College; William E. Garnett, professor of rural sociology, Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Theo. W. H. Irion, dean of bureau of education, University of Missouri; D. E. Lindstrom, specialist in rural sociology, University of Illinois; Barton Morgan, professor of vocational education, Iowa State College; J. L. O'Rourke, director of scientific research, U. S. Civil Service Commission; David Segal, specialist in tests and measurements, Office of Education, Department of the Interior.



Marketing Feeder Livestock

L. E. CLINE

Extension Agricultural Economist
Nevada Extension Service

THE livestock industry of Nevada is devoted, principally, to the production of feeder cattle and sheep. Some finishing operations are carried on in the irrigated valleys.

The successful operation of this feeder livestock production and marketing program is based on the active cooperation of public agencies and others actively interested in promoting the livestock industry of Nevada.

Any group of cooperating agencies must be properly directed by some one person or organization, always on the job, if favorable results are to be expected. In this particular program the Nevada Agricultural Extension Service furnishes the motive power, although it does no actual buying or selling.

Through the cooperation of such logical agencies as the Nevada State Farm Bureau, the range-livestock producers of the State and the Nevada Extension Service, working through its county agents, a very efficient advisory selling service for Nevada feeder livestock has been provided.

Such cooperative sales agencies as the Pacific Coast Livestock Marketing Association with headquarters in San Francisco, the Producers' Livestock Marketing Association of Salt Lake and Ogden, and a large array of individual buyers of

Nevada feeder livestock, furnish the market outlets.

Assembling Information in Counties

The marketing division of the Nevada Extension Service, which is in close contact with the production side of the picture, uses the facilities of the various county agents' offices in the State to assemble each fall the inventory of all feeder cattle and sheep that will be offered for sale in each county. This inventory, covering information as to the various kinds and classes of cattle and sheep to be offered for sale by each party, the approximate date on which they will be ready, where they may be seen, and the shipping point, is assembled for each county separately on forms provided and kept on file in each county. A duplicate of this detailed inventory for each county is sent to the State office where the composite information for the State is assembled.

State Summaries Made

The county listings filed in the State office are composed into summaries for each county. The county summaries are then assembled into a State summary in which individual ownerships are not shown. State summaries are prepared at intervals as listings are changed with

additions or with sales so as to keep the State summaries up to date.

As current State summaries are prepared, copies are immediately placed in the hands of each Nevada county agent, and a copy is also sent to a State mailing list of interested persons and agencies.

With this information and the detailed inventory of listings in his own county at hand, the county agent is enabled to be of great value in making contacts between prospective purchasers looking for feeder livestock in his own county, as well as in other counties, when inventories in his own county are not sufficient to meet the needs of such prospective buyers.

By the above means the whole Extension Service of Nevada, as well as the other cooperating groups and persons, are enabled to serve as a large-scale agency of information for the livestock industry of the State when marketing time comes.

An important link in this marketing program is the Pacific States Livestock Marketing Association and the Producers' Livestock Marketing Association, which list among their members many range-livestock producers of Nevada. These cooperatives are provided with current summaries of all livestock listings, including complete inventories for their use in supplying their members who make a business of finishing cattle for market.

Additional contacts are made directly from the county agents' offices with past purchasers who have made a practice of stocking their feed yards from particular counties.

While the livestock marketing program is in full operation in the State, the State extension office and the various county agents devote special attention to current prices of feeder and fat cattle on the nearest primary markets, as well as for sales made locally, and are thus able to be of valuable assistance in helping producers to determine the actual value of their livestock.

The efficiency of the Nevada livestock marketing program has gained materially with time and experience, and is becoming more and more popular with the livestock producers and more essential to the purchasers of Nevada feeder livestock in this land of wide-open spaces, large individual operations, and limited communication facilities.

Transactions between the producer and purchaser are direct except when the services of the cooperative livestock associations are required and the part played by the Extension Service is purely educational.

Fingerprints of Progress

Last Ten Years Show Increasing Activities and Results

	ITEMS	1935 FIGURES	PERCENT- AGE OF INCREASE OVER 1925
	Number of extension workers	8, 539 . .	75
	Farm and home visits made	2, 210, 729 . .	25
	Voluntary local leaders, adult	318, 548 . .	98
	Voluntary local leaders, junior	106, 403 . .	122
	Telephone calls	7, 402, 469 . .	255
	Home demonstration groups	41, 504 . .	175
	Enrollment in home demonstration groups	950, 927 . .	98
	4-H clubs	60, 720 . .	47
	Enrollment in 4-H clubs	997, 744 . .	77
	Events featuring extension exhibits	26, 496 . .	220
	Individual letters written	11, 304, 124 . .	200
	Camps	2, 592 . .	26
	Office calls	24, 075, 194 . .	700
	Training meetings for local leaders	90, 114 . .	223
	All meetings held	981, 401 . .	79
	Total attendance	33, 898, 959 . .	82

Dark Horse Wins Second

In Kansas Model Club Meeting Contest



HASKELL County Model 4-H Club, with less than 2 years of 4-H club experience, can well be considered the dark horse of the 1935 Kansas State-wide model club meeting contest, winning second to Shawnee County, a veteran county with an 18-year 4-H program to its credit. The event marked the debut of both counties into this annual model-club contest designed by the State 4-H department to stimulate interest in club work and to raise the quality of the performance of meetings. Each county must hold a contest to be eligible for district competition, the high-ranking contestants of each district competing for State championship at the annual 4-H club Kansas round-up.

The winning of this contest award didn't just happen but was very definitely the result of careful planning by C. L. King, formerly county agricultural agent of Haskell County, and now county club agent of Shawnee County. He planned to get the seven clubs in Haskell County interested in the contest in order that they would learn more about planning for their regular meetings and have the opportunity to become acquainted with club members in other counties.

In order to get the clubs interested in the model meeting, Mr. King met with each club and presented to them a model meeting form for them to revise and use according to their needs. He outlined a demonstration on seed germination and gave this to clubs unfamiliar with demonstrations.

These ideas met with quick response. Club members who had failed to attend meetings regularly began to attend regularly because of their interest in the contest. All clubs immediately selected characters for the parts and scheduled rehearsals.

Amateurs in experience but pioneers in spirit, the members of the county model-meeting team were finally selected from six of the seven clubs competing in

the county contest, which previously had been postponed because of dust storms. The seventh club was forced to give up its plans because of an epidemic of measles.

Immediately following the county contest, Agent King, with the assistance of two club leaders, wrote the model-meeting outline for the county. A meeting was held, the parts given out, and the whole manuscript gone through. Dust storms interfered with subsequent rehearsals, and the club entered and won the district contest without practicing the designed meeting completely.

Profiting by criticisms of the various judges, they made the corrections suggested; members of the cast exchanged parts for those to which they were better suited, and some much-needed rehearsals got under way.

After their eligibility to the State contest was clearly established, they left by truck for Manhattan, 430 miles away. Coping with a new experience after struggling through measles and dust storms, they returned home happy to have won second place.

Home-Made Recreation In Home-Talent Plays

A one-act play contest was the major activity of the Stillwater County, Mont., recreation council during 1935-36. This contest was sponsored by the home demonstration council and was open to home demonstration clubs.

Thirteen clubs in the county participated in the contest which was divided into four districts for preliminary contests. The clubs in each district made arrangements for the time, place, and other details. The recreation leaders were responsible for the play but were allowed to draw on any help available. In many instances rural teachers helped with the coaching. Inasmuch as possible the casts were composed of home demonstration club members or members of their families, but other people in the community were used when necessary or advisable.

The contest rules were drawn up and approved by the recreation council at

two meetings of that group. A demonstration on make-up was given at one county meeting for the benefit of the play directors. A make-up kit was assembled by the home demonstration agent and loaned to the clubs a day or two before the plays. A charge of 5 cents per member of each cast using the make-up was made to defray expenses.

The admission charged at the preliminary contests was sufficient to defray all expenses. In the Nye district a dance was given after the plays, and each of the three clubs cleared \$16.50 from the plays and the dance.

The final contest was held in June at the annual home-demonstration achievement day, as that had been one of the goals of the contest.

Some of the benefits derived from the contest in Stillwater County, as related by Orpha Brown, county extension agent, were: The plays developed a community consciousness in several places, as the people had never really worked together on anything. It was great fun for those producing the play. One elderly lady said, "I really don't care if we don't win, because I have had more fun practicing than I've had for years." The contest created an opportunity for a good community entertainment at which a little money could be made, and it created county-wide interest in plays and gave people a chance to express themselves. People who had never attended an Extension Service function came out to see their neighbors in a play.

Three judges were selected to judge all the preliminary contests, and a score card recommended by the National Recreation Association was used in placing the plays. The play directors had copies of this score card so that they knew how the play would be scored.

Clubs that were unable to produce plays this year are beginning to talk about repeating the contest next year.

Better by \$75,000,000

Higher livestock price levels were primarily responsible for the \$75,000,000 increase in business of farmers' cooperative livestock marketing associations during the 1935-36 marketing season as compared with the 1934-35 season. More than 600,000 farmers and stockmen marketed livestock cooperatively during 1935-36. More than 1,000,000 animals were handled by the largest association with gross sales in excess of \$26,000,000.

Spreading Christmas Cheer

from
Estes Park,
Colorado

A SEASONAL home industry has developed from a Yuletide project undertaken each year by the Women's Extension Club of Estes Park, in Larimer County, Colo. For a number of years these clubwomen have made the Christmas decorations for the streets of the little village of Estes Park.

In addition to making decorations for their home town, the women of this progressive extension club are now taking orders for wreaths and delivering them to nearby towns. For the last 2 years, the home demonstration agent of the county, Mrs. Carmen Johnson, has furthered the activity, and the fame of these wreaths has spread to far-distant points.

This year the women sent entries for an exhibit and sale held in Chicago. One woman entered wreaths consisting of more than 20 varieties of native evergreens. Two other women entered pieces of pine-needle work.



The huge masses of greens which are used to make these Christmas decorations do not represent any wholesale slaughter of trees but, instead, a much-needed thinning out of branches usually done by rangers from the national forest or by private owners.

There is always a spirit of festivity and Christmas cheer apparent when this work of preparing Christmas cheer is under way. The annual meeting in the basement of the church for this purpose has come to be a popular event. The community dinner served at noon is a pleasant feature of the day and, no doubt, the bait which lures many a husband to the scene; for husbands and hatchets are important adjuncts to the art of making artistic wreaths in which these Colorado women have become so skilled.

minimum cost. It is believed to be the first cooperative of its kind.

The plan calls for the formation of an association which will contact one veterinarian or more in the county to perform these services. He will call at the farm of each member once each month to render ordinary services, such as dehorning, docking, vaccinating, giving feeding advice, and arresting incipient diseases before they reach an acute stage. He will also make two emergency calls per year and additional emergency calls at reduced cost. He will furnish all medicine except vaccines, serums, and other expensive pharmaceutical preparations, which he will furnish at cost.

Tentatively, the services could be furnished to 70 cooperators for a \$5 membership and an additional fee of 80 cents per productive animal unit, such unit to consist of 1 horse, 1 cow, 2 young cattle, 5 hogs, 7 sheep, or 100 poultry.

4-H Sheep Raisers Have Own Insurance

Forty-two members of a 4-H sheep project in Mitchell County, Kans., learned the value of cooperative insurance last year.

Club members placed in an insurance fund 50 cents for every western ewe obtained. The program was financed through local club leaders and the local production credit association. There were 374 ewes insured by the 42 members, and only 9 members finished the year without losses.

Altogether, 47 ewes were lost during the year ending August 1, 1936. Twelve, or more than a fourth, of the ewes were killed by dogs. Eight were lambing-time losses, four were from bloat, and nine from unknown causes. One stray was never recovered. Other causes of death included colds, poisoning, maggots, broken leg, and getting run over by a train.

Adjustments were made according to the time of year when the losses occurred. Losses before February were adjusted at the rate of \$4 a head; February, March, and April losses at \$3; and those after that at \$2. The largest adjustment, \$46, went to four brothers, Joe, Jr., Max, Robert, and Ernest Ludwig, who lost 12 of their 40 ewes. Ten of these were killed by dogs.

After all adjustments had been made, \$38 remained in the fund. This was returned to the members on the basis of the number of ewes each had insured. The project was commended highly by B. W. Wright, extension specialist in farm management at Kansas State College.

Bang's Disease Control

The national campaign to control Bang's disease in cattle is making steady progress. This work, which is being conducted in all States, is primarily on a voluntary basis so far as the Federal Government is concerned. The cattle owners are required to sign an agreement requiring certain procedures on their part that are considered necessary in proper handling of herds to eliminate or control the disease.

In some States the testing for Bang's disease is being conducted on an area basis, the area usually being a county. In Virginia the work is making exceptionally rapid progress. During October 55 counties in that State were testing cattle under the provisions of a State law bearing on this work. In Washington and Oregon, State regulations require

owners of cattle to have them tested for Bang's disease under specific conditions. Area testing is also under way in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Louisiana, Arkansas, West Virginia, and Maryland.

The total number of cattle tested for Bang's disease since the work was begun in 1934 to October 1, 1936, is 11,858,859. These cattle were in 833,004 herds. There were 6,608,408 cattle under supervision on October 1, 1936.

New Cooperative Idea

A new cooperative enterprise is being organized in Livingston County, Mich., under the guidance of the Extension Service and the Resettlement Administration. Through this organization, clients and other eligible farmers will obtain necessary veterinary service at a

Selling Christmas Greens



It is often a question in 4-H club work what to do with young people who live in urban areas and who have an interest in the farm or at least wish to be 4-H club members. This problem confronted Willard Patton, recently resigned county club agent in Hampden County, Mass., and here is his story as told to G. O. Oleson, extension editor.

I EXPERIMENTED considerably along this line. I wanted a project that would not be far afield from the recognized 4-H projects and yet one that would utilize farm products which make salable goods. The first attempt made in 1934 was to get forestry clubs interested in making twig baskets, wreaths, chemically dipped cones for the fireplace, and other articles.

Barbara Whitman, a girl who for 2 years won the medal offered by the American Forestry Association, took orders for such things at florists' shops and other places, but the plan was difficult to handle, as the various clubs sending in material didn't supply the material regularly or in sufficient amounts, and when the Christmas rush was over they had much unsold produce on hand.

In 1935 we started on a little different basis. Arnold M. Davis, extension horticulturist at the State college, trained leaders in methods of making attractive baskets, bouquets, and the like. Robert Parmenter, extension forester, gave the leaders principles in wood-lot management and obtained from the Massachusetts Federation of Women's Clubs tags bearing a legend indicating that no forests had been despoiled in gathering materials used.

4-H club members who lived on the farm were sought out for the supply of

these raw materials, and of course they were gathered without harm to the forest. A real flourishing business was set up. City clubs organized for purchasing, manufacturing, and selling, and the rural boys gathered and sold the raw material.

Starting before Thanksgiving, an Agawam club led by my son worked many extra hours and produced about \$75 worth of wreaths, decorated twig baskets, and centerpieces. This club hired a boy on a commission basis to sell the products.

The project designated was conservation, and you will probably say that conservation isn't selling Christmas greens. Yet, in the making of these articles, the members learned much about good forestry management as well as learning to work. They learned that there are certain definite practices in cutting Christmas greens so that the trees and forests will not be depleted. They refused to buy without having definite assurance that such practices were carried out.

They learned what berries the birds feed on during the winter, and they refrained from using such plants as swamp alders, purchasing artificial salvia instead. The club also learned to erect and maintain game-bird feeding shelters, and the members supplied these shelters with feed regularly during the months of heavy snow.

The five boys of this little club in Agawam have carried their work into new fields. For example, the boys have been making buttons from butternuts and black walnuts and have been selling a goodly number of dried flower bouquets and painted gourds. Here again they have used the information taught them by Mr. Davis. In making the buttons they used a band saw or jig saw and cut crosswise of the nut. Then the cross sections were scraped and polished or lacquered. They made very attractive buttons.

In making their dried flower bouquets, baskets of gourds, twig baskets, and other articles, the boys have worked out a regular system. One boy trims, another cuts, one or two do the nailing, and another puts in the handles. All of this work is done in the garage where there is no heat and where the material keeps much better.

A 4-foot centerpiece was made by one of the boys for the head table at the annual dinner of the Hampden County Improvement League.

Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, and Hampden clubs carried out somewhat similar programs but on a smaller scale. Besides conservation, these clubs have taught cooperation, business organization, craftsmanship, and good fellowship.

IN BRIEF

Completion

Bingham County, Idaho, is proud of the 17 boys' and girls' 4-H clubs that finished 100 percent of their project work. The 246 club members in the county carried 252 projects and were members of 27 clubs. The percentage completion for the county was 88.8 percent, the highest in the southeastern district of the State.

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Progress

Home demonstration agents from 44 counties in Iowa recently attended a 4-day training school on electrical equipment. Rural electrification projects have been started in these counties, and the school was held to give the agents information on electrical equipment for household use.

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Must Be Interested

Between 600 and 800 club boys in Georgia will fatten beef calves this year. Two hundred and sixty-two calves have been shipped in, 250 are on the way, and 150 have been ordered. Most of the calves have been purchased with the financial aid of the bankers in the State.

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Farmers' Exchange

"The Etowah County, Ala., Exchange, which is the farmers' service organization, has shown marked growth during the past 5 years", says County Agent L. L. Self. Aside from handling cotton and supplying seed and fertilizer at substantial savings to the farmers, it has served as a means of exchange among the farmers for better seed, hay, poultry, and many other products. As an example, one farmer purchased all his legume seed with hay. Another farmer purchased all his supplementary poultry feed with corn, and still another bought his O-Too-Tan seed for hay with surplus hay.

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Community Canneries

Ten community canneries were operated in Mecklenburg County, N. C., this fall. The county furnished the cans and provided a supervisor, an assistant, and one other helper. The people in the community brought their own fruits and vegetables to the cannery, prepared them

for canning, and put them into the cans. The supervisor and assistants did the actual processing. The county took a third of the cans filled as a toll to pay for the cans. The plan proved very satisfactory, and, as there was a shortage of produce in Mecklenburg County this year, farm families were glad to can everything they could.

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T. B. Accredited

Only five States were left, early in December, to be put on the accredited list of States practically free of bovine tuberculosis. In the accredited counties where the original T. B. infection was heavy, cattle are being retested to detect any possible new infection that may appear.

In the three Eastern States not yet on the cattle T. B.-free list, New York, New Jersey, and Maryland, only a few counties are not yet accredited. California and South Dakota remain to be accredited, but the testing is progressing.

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Junior Farmers

Twenty young farmers between the ages of 18 and 25 who are living in Obion County, Tenn., have organized a "junior farmers' club" as a means of continuing their interest in rural life. They believe that they have outgrown 4-H club work and are yet too young to make affiliations with adult organizations in the county.

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4-H Cook Book

Three thousand copies of a 4-H club cook book compiled by the leaders and older girls in Rock County, Wis., 4-H clubs were printed and most of them sold, reports County Agent R. T. Glassco.

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More Small Farms

Two-thirds of the 523,702 increase in the number of farms in the United States between 1930 and 1935 were from 3 to 19 acres in size, reports the Federal Census of Agriculture. Farms ranging from 3 to 9 acres increased in numbers in all States and gained 70 percent during the 5-year period. Farms of 10 to 19 acres showed an increase of 22 percent over the same period. Of the 6,812,350 farms in the country, as of January 1, 1936, approximately 4 out of every 5 contained less than 175 acres. Farms decreased in average size in 36 States and increased in 12 States.

AMONG OURSELVES

JOHN B. DANIELS, for 13 years county agent in Miller County, Ark., has recently been appointed extension economist in farm management. Mr. Daniels will carry on a program to help farmers analyze and balance their farming operations to fit Arkansas conditions. He will also work with farmers in marketing farm products, using outlook information, and keeping farm records.

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ALMOST one-half or, to be exact, 23 of the present State extension directors are serving the States in which they were born.

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MISS SADIE HATFIELD, formerly district agent, has been appointed extension specialist in landscape gardening in Texas, following a year's leave of absence. Miss Onah Jacks, who has held this latter position, has been transferred to the position of State girls' club agent.

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LOUIS JOHN FRANKE, formerly county agent in Brooks County, Tex., has been appointed assistant extension editor in that State.

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MASSACHUSETTS has made the following new appointments: Beatrice E. Billings, home demonstration agent at large; James W. Dayton, agricultural agent at large; and Lawrence V. Loy, specialist in community organization and recreation.

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OTIS EARLE HALL, for the past 16 years connected with the Hampden County (Mass.) Improvement League and since 1929 its managing director, died suddenly the latter part of September. In 1914 Mr. Hall became 4-H club leader for the State of Kansas and in 1920 took over the 4-H club work in Hampden County, Mass.

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THE 93 members of Epsilon Sigma Phi, honorary extension fraternity, in Pennsylvania have an average of 17 years' employment in extension work. There are 12 members who have served 20 years or more; and 1 member, Edward B. Fitts, has a record of 30 years.



My Point of View

Harnett County Sign-up

Harnett County, N. C., farmers have signed up a total of 273,704.4 acres of farm land out of a total area in the county of 376,000 acres, including towns, rivers, and other nonfarm land.

The work sheet signers represent on this signed acreage that they have 102,327.6 acres of crop land. In 1932 the total acreage planted to soil-conserving and soil-building crops in Harnett County was 5,833 acres. In 1935 the total soil-conserving acres in Harnett County was 15,600.6, and in 1936 there will be at least 20,000 acres, showing that we have increased the soil-conserving acreage in Harnett County 343 percent in 4 years.

In 1932 the tobacco crop in Harnett County was 11,200 acres and brought \$1,187,781, or \$79 per acre. The 1935 tobacco crop had 15,724 acres and brought \$3,190,000, or \$202 per acre. The cotton crop in 1932 of 30,174 acres brought a total amount of \$584,470.38, or \$19.37 per acre; on 24,503 acres in 1935 farmers received \$960,000, or \$39.17 per acre. The above prices for cotton do not include the seed in 1932 or 1935. The seed in 1932 was bringing 16 to 18 cents per bushel, whereas in 1935 it was bringing 45 to 55 cents per bushel.

The tobacco and cotton crop, plus the corn, wheat, and all other crops with their increased valuation from 1932 to 1935, jumped from an income of slightly more than a total in 1932 of \$2,265,683 to slightly less than \$6,000,000 in 1935.—*J. O. Anthony, county agricultural agent, Harnett County, N. C.*

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Home Visits

Home visits are interesting and valuable, even though they consume a lot of time. I have made annual visits to homes in the northern part of my county, and now they seem like calling on old friends. There are 15 or more nationalities in this county, and in many homes Italian, Russian, or German is spoken more fluently than English. Sometimes the children or husband interpret.

Most of the contacts are made through girls and boys in 4-H club work, and this

year I have included more visits to homes of active 4-H club members. I find that I do not know the mothers of many of the girls—either we meet at the school or some other home, or I do not attend the meetings held at their homes. These contacts proved most interesting and profitable. Some homemakers accepted help with canning; some are good prospects for members of homemakers' clubs; and one woman was glad to have help with her new house. The closet material from the Federal office delighted her. I always carry a few bulletins on food preservation and try to interest the women in canning. Sometimes there is opportunity to show them how to do some phase of homemaking more skillfully.

These home visits, with the friendliness and the 4-H mother-daughter contact, make it seem that something is really accomplished.—*Bessie M. Spafford, county home demonstration agent, Caroline County, Md.*

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It Can Be Done

The greatest need on the farms of today is a more satisfying and contented atmosphere in the farm home reflected in the attitude of the farm family. This condition may be brought about by making it possible for farm people to own their farms and homes and to have the things which make living enjoyable. A power washer instead of an old-fashioned washboard, running water instead of the old oaken bucket, electric lights instead of a coal-oil lamp, refrigeration, bathroom facilities, piano, radio, library, shorter working hours, a chance for a vacation in the mountains, and college opportunities for the children!

The shortest route for realization of these advantages and opportunities is to increase the net farm income. This can be brought about by reducing the cost of production and obtaining a better price for what the farmer has to sell.

The county extension agent occupies a pivotal position to help bring such a condition to pass. He is accustomed to promoting the extension program for increasing efficiency, as well as assisting with the educational features for the agricultural conservation program which is intended to bring about conservation of our soil and water resources and give to farmers larger net incomes and better conditions.

This offers the greatest challenge that

ever faced the Extension Service. Can we meet the challenge and put it over? I believe the county extension agents will do their part.—*T. F. Yost, county agricultural agent, Cowley County, Kans.*

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Making the Most of Experience

In Chemung County new types of meetings, known as discussion meetings, have been developed during the past few years. These discussion meetings are something of the nature of the old cracker-barrel discussions that were held at the cross-road grocery store—some come mainly to listen; others come to contribute toward the solution of the problem by their experience and by their ability to reason.

One of the contributions which this type of meeting makes in our extension program is that it teaches people to think. Problems that arise in connection with any farm business must be solved by the farmer himself in the last analysis. The county agent and specialists can help the farmer to think straight on these problems by giving him the latest scientific information about the problems and by contributing the experiences of other farmers who have had similar problems. When the decision has to be made about a new method of doing farm work, however, this decision has to be made by the farmer himself.

Our ability to use the experiences of other men in solving farm problems depends a great deal on how effectively these experiences of other farmers are presented to us. It seems likely that there is no way quite so convincing as to hear the farmer tell his own experience in his own words. This is the thing which discussion meetings have contributed to extension work. Discussion meetings are an organized method of accumulating the experiences of many farmers in the solution of farm problems.

Have you ever stopped to think of the vast amount of experience we have in a meeting of 40 poultrymen who have had an average of 10 years' experience in the poultry business? This would make a total of 400 years' experience with poultry. Certainly, if we are going to learn from the experience of others, then an effective presentation of the experiences of others is by means of these discussion meetings.—*L. H. Woodward, county agricultural agent, Chemung County, N. Y.*

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SCHOOL LIFE

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October
1936
Vol. 22 • No. 2



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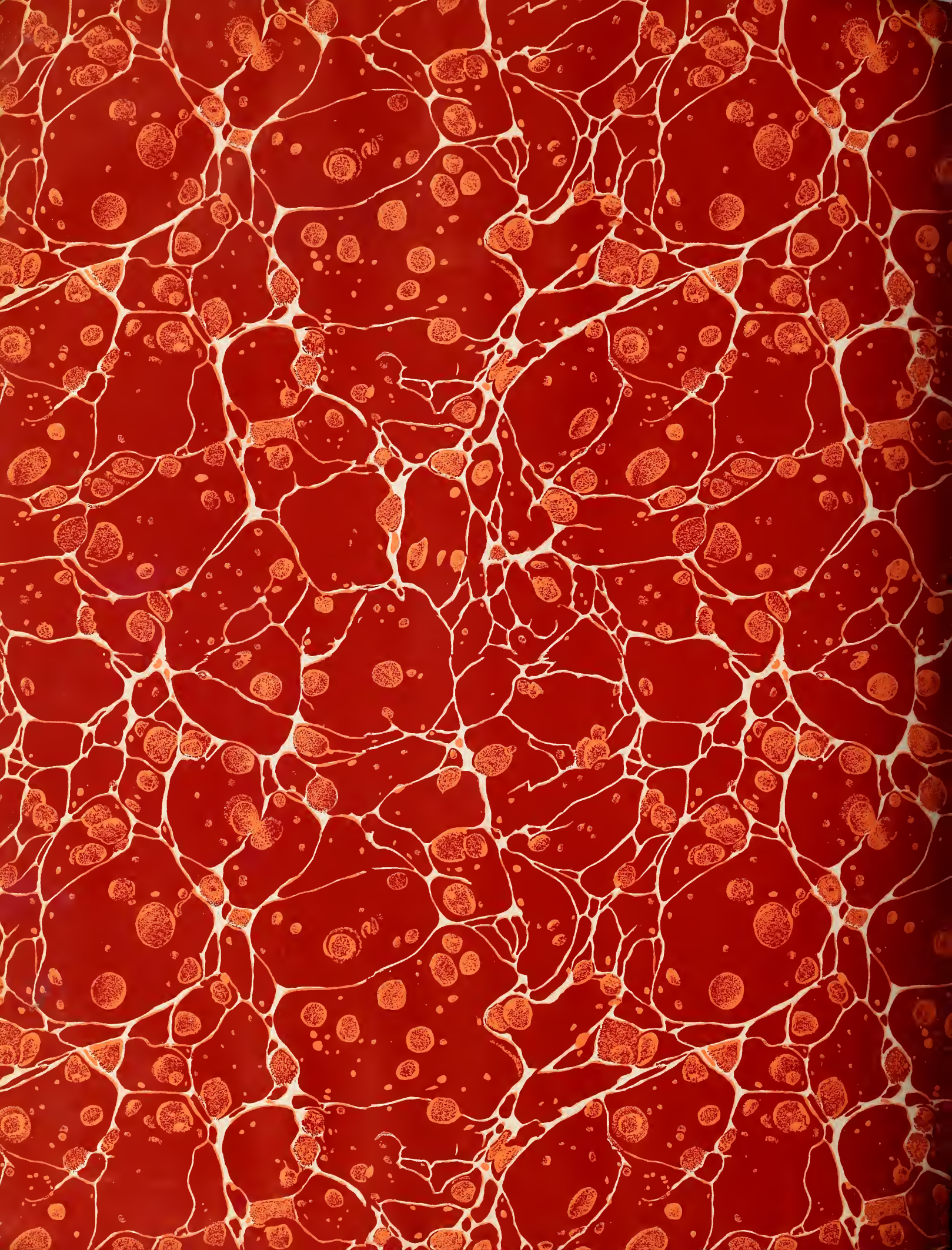
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